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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

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To 9: For info & any appropriate action.

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Executive Secretary

19 July

Date

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Executive Registry
78-8213/54

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 15, 1978

OLC #78-399/1

White House

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET

SUBJECT:

Intelligence Charter Legislation

I concur in your dealing with the involved agencies directly on the positions you have developed on Titles IV, V and VI of S2525. Ideally these points should have been raised during the course of the SCC's already completed review of these titles, at least within the special Legislative Charters Working Group and, if necessary, at the meeting of the SCC principals. Unfortunately, OMB did not have a full opportunity to do so and, therefore, this remedial action is justified. If these problems cannot be resolved between OMB and the agencies, they should then be put into the SCC review process, first at the Legislative Charters Working Group level.

I understand that there has been a misunderstanding about the respective NSC and OMB coordination roles in the S2525 review process. The following points are relevant:


- The National Security Act of 1947, as amended, and the President's E. O. 12036 established the NSC as the "highest Executive Branch entity" to review and coordinate on intelligence affairs.
- The President has specifically endorsed the principle that the "SCC will be the principal interagency coordination body" on S2525. Your representative, Randy Jayne, agreed to this approach at the 15 May SCC meeting.
- It was also decided at the 15 May SCC meeting, and subsequently endorsed by the President, that OMB will be responsible for obtaining comments on S2525 from agencies and departments who have an interest but are not represented on the SCC. The other SCC members will make their inputs directly to the special Legislative Charters Working Group that supports the SCC and, as appropriate, to the SCC itself.

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- OMB has been fully integrated into the SCC review process, including representation on the working group. This will ensure that in the future OMB's contribution can be made at the proper point in the NSC decision-making process.

Responsible OMB officials should consult with Samuel Hoskinson of the NSC Staff, who is the action officer on S2525, if they have any questions concerning implementation of the above guidance.


Zbigniew Brzezinski

cc: SECDEF
Attorney General
DCI
DIR/FBI
DIR/NSA

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL
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FBI